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Union Standards for War Work

Adjustment of the shipyard strike on a basis of union wages and working conditions should be a solution of that serious problem eminently satisfactory to workers, employers and government officials. If, as The Tribune's Washington correspondence indicates, the principle involved in the agreement just reached is to be extended to apply to all government war work, a wise precedent will have been established and a growing danger sagaciously met.

This war to make the world safe for democracy will be fought as much in the factories at home as in the trenches in Europe. In fact, if the factories, the farms, the railroads, do not do their part, the army and the navy cannot do theirs. Economic hardship or injustice cannot be permitted in the factories at home any more than starvation or epidemics could be permitted among the soldiers. On the other hand, strikes and industrial disturbances here would be as serious as mutiny among the men in the trenches.

All this President Wilson and his advisers early recognized. An understanding was reached between the Council of National Defence and organized labor, represented by Mr. Gompers, that a truce was to be declared in the industrial battle, with each side pledged not to take advantage of the country's need by seeking aggrandizement at the expense of the other. The President made a vigorous declaration against the breaking down of any laws establishing standards of working conditions and requirements for industrial safety. He insisted that this was a fight for democracy in a broader sense than was expressible in political terms. Any action, therefore, undoing progressive social legislation would be action false to the spirit in which America had entered the war. It was for this reason that Governor Whitman vetoed the vicious Brown bill passed at Albany, which would have made possible the breaking down of all legal safeguards for workers.

Notwithstanding the endeavors of the government and of the most enlightened labor leaders and employers to preserve industrial peace, disturbances have arisen. Who was at fault in these cases is beside the point at this time. What is important is that the government, by providing for the payment of union wages and demanding union standards for working conditions on war contracts, has taken a course which ought to forestall any future trouble, unless malcontents and seditious-mongers find fertile soil for their seeds of treason. Union wages, union standards, represent about the maximum which the workers feel the traffic will bear at any time. They are framed to meet the demands of living's cost; they embody, roughly, the workers' idea of social and economic justice. The nation which recently raised its scale of soldiers' pay could not well refuse to take equivalent action for the benefit of its workers, playing an equally important part in the carrying on of the war.

For this course the United States government has ample precedent in the policy which Great Britain has worked out. There at first labor safeguards were abandoned in a mad rush to hasten production by any means. But unlimited overtime work was found not to increase production permanently. The health of labor suffered, efficiency was impaired. Now the great bulk of war work is done under agreement by which profits are limited, wages are controlled by government tribunals, with increases allowable to meet increased cost of living and strikes not lawful; with approximately the old union rules or legal restrictions as to hours of labor, days off and the like in force. Where women are employed on jobs formerly held by men, the minimum wages for men are paid to the women.

This war has brought vast changes into the industrial life of the country. It has opened for many employers avenues of profit-making which would not otherwise exist. These war profits are to be taxed, which is just. In spite of that, war fortunes will be made. The government could not, in good grace, permit any fortune to be unduly swelled by conniving at the grinding down of labor through underpayment or the maintenance of anything approaching sweatshop conditions or industrial peonage. Its action in undertaking to regulate wages and working conditions for the shipbuilders shows that it does not intend to permit anything of the

sort. It has served notice on all and sundry that in the endeavor to save democracy in the world at large democracy shall not suffer here at home.

Putting On the Muffler

For a man who announces himself as the "people's candidate," opposed to autocracy and all things undemocratic, Judge Hylan's newly promulgated rules governing interviews are quite remarkable. Reporters who seek his views on any matter of interest to the public must submit their questions, typewritten and duly labelled with their names, at 10 a. m. At 11 a. m., or as much later as the exigencies of the situation dictate, answers will be forthcoming to such questions as Judge Hylan cares to discuss.

Under this scheme, as admirable in its way as the machinery by which the German government controls the German press, the candidate will be spared the embarrassment of a cross-examination by persistent reporters. This, of course, is frequently highly annoying to candidates, but it is also frequently highly enlightening to the voters, as much because of what the candidate does not say under fire as because of what he does say. Putting on the muffler in this fashion is a violation of the unwritten rules governing candidates and campaigns, which recognize the right of the public to any expression of opinion which can be pried from a seeker after office by reporters or hecklers. Is it possible Judge Hylan has views on anything he is afraid to express? It surely cannot be—perish the thought!—that his views have to be subjected to censorship by any person before they are released!

The Soldiers' Ballot Improved

The Legislature is to be commended for having taken steps to make more simple and easy the casting of soldiers' and sailors' ballots. This year at election time many thousands of electors from this state will be serving their country in France, in military cantonments training for the front, or on shipboard. The election law contemplates their voting, but without the changes just made that voting would have been difficult and cumbersome.

Under the law as it stood ballots were provided, but the soldiers and sailors had to write in the names of candidates for whom they wished to vote. Having incomplete, possibly inaccurate, lists they would at the best vote incomplete ballots; the possibility of ballots spoiled through technical errors was great, and many men would decline to take the trouble to vote when they could not have printed ballots like those furnished to stay-at-homes. This evil has been corrected. Printed ballots containing names of all candidates save those for Aldermen, Assemblymen and minor county officers will be furnished. The rigid rules defining defective ballots will not apply, but the boards of canvassers will endeavor to figure out the intent of the voter and so record the ballot. Commanding officers will have discretion to fix the time and place of balloting—it might be in the trenches. A provision has been made also intended to reduce the cost of canvassing the soldier and sailor vote by requiring only two members of a board of inspectors instead of four.

These changes were greatly to be desired. The old provisions imposed unnecessary hardship, tending to discourage the man in uniform, requiring him to exercise the franchise under handicap. The country's disposition now is not to discourage or handicap the soldiers and sailors, but rather to grant them every right and privilege to which they are entitled. Assuredly the right of voting under conditions as simple, as easy and as nearly as possible like those to which they have been accustomed is one which they deserve.

An Economic Orthodox

President Wilson's reference, in his message to Russia, to certain European Socialists who are being used by German imperialism "to their own undoing" obviously does not refer to the American Socialist party. The American Socialist movement does not need any outside help; it is undoing itself. Possibly it is more correct to say that the Socialist party is not so much undoing itself as revealing itself to the American public in its true light. It is not a political party at all. It is a church. It is a sectarian movement, founded on the word of Marx and intrusted with the office of keeping pure the faith once delivered to the comrades.

The ecclesiastical nature of the Socialist sect is unmistakably revealed in the present liberal distribution of excommunications and resignations by which Pastor Hillquit is purging his household of faith of the heresy of patriotism. Russell, A. M. Simons, Gaylord and Lunn have been cast into utter darkness. Walling, Spargo, Stokes and others, all incidentally persons with non-Teutonic names, have back-slidden, having failed to make their calling and election sure; while even Allen Benson's orthodoxy is under suspicion. Altogether, a very thorough cleansing of the congregation of everything strictly American! This purism may appear to unbelievers like narrow religious intolerance on the part of the faithful comrades; but as Billy Sunday would doubtless say in defence of the right of religious bodies generally to expel unbelievers, if a church member does not like the creed to which he has subscribed let him get out and join a more liberal denomination.

So far as the public is concerned, Mr. Hillquit has the same right as any other clergyman to make war on heresy within the fold. If socialism prefers to dispense with its ablest thinkers and writers, it is certainly not for worldly outsiders to interfere. But any cult which makes it uncomfortable for a loyal citizen to remain in its membership will hardly gain favor just at present in the eyes of the American public. Obviously, it is unacceptable to the Socialist hierarchy if a communicant shows much zeal in standing up for his own country in its armed conflict with Germany. This country grants freedom of

belief to all, but it hardly expects to see that freedom extended to sympathy for the nation's enemies in war. Other religious denominations which have been transplanted to these shores from foreign lands have made a more or less conscious effort to Americanize their followers. Socialism, in the hour of the nation's crisis, would seem to remain un-American.

Doubtless its hard and fast creedalism accounts in a way for the unadaptableness of socialism in this land where less rigidly doctrinal cults have been unable to resist the liberalizing influences of American life. The dogmatic temper of socialism has kept it a thing apart and alien. True, its dogmas are for the most part the very reverse of those of other narrow sects; but one does not escape from sectarian limitations simply by turning his dogmas upside down. Here, in fact, is the mischief of trying to substitute an economic orthodoxy for a theological. The static and unbending habit of mind remains, but not, as in the case of the traditional theologian, as something outside of and above passing events. It is thrown in their very vortex, condemned to deal with them or perish; yet so theory bound is it that it can do no more than repeat its formulas.

Orthodox socialism still sees the political situation from the intellectual standpoint of 1848. Hence nationalism and patriotism are essentially sinful to its mind. It says in the Socialist Koran that all wars must be the results of "capitalist conspiracies for profit." Hence England and America, being "capitalist countries," must necessarily be "hypocritical" in resisting Prussian tyranny and aggression. If the Socialist party of Germany and America had been a genuine political movement it would have seen its supreme opportunity in the present struggle of world democracy against Kaiserism. It would have said with President Wilson: "Now, or never." But as it is a sort of materialist cult of Adventism, the socialists can only stand by and preach an abstract millennium of democracy, excommunicating the very men who see in American institutions an instrument for bringing that millennium nearer.

No Sweatshop Uniforms

Protests by the Mayor, the Mayor's Committee on National Defence and needleworkers' unions that United States army and navy uniforms were being made in this city under sweatshop conditions have met with prompt action by the Secretary of War. Mr. Baker's appointment of a board of three—a woman sociological expert, a merchant and an officer of the Quartermaster's Department—with full power to regulate conditions, promises to remedy the evils complained of.

Heretofore the Quartermaster's Department, before letting a contract, has inspected the factory of a bidder and rejected the bid if working conditions were not up to standard. But one inspection is not enough, especially at a time when the government's demand is increasing by leaps and bounds and the temptation, even the necessity, to rush contracts, overlook employees and overcrowd shops is great. It is to be hoped that Mr. Baker's labor control board will devise machinery for checking these evils right at the start. If it does it will have the cooperation of the city administration and the sympathy of the people.

In a war like this it is not fitting that the soldiers of freedom should go to the firing line clad in garments which are the product of one of the worst forms of modern slavery.

Windfalls
(From The Portland Oregonian)

As the apple and pear harvest approaches it should be borne in mind that fruit, as well as every other kind of food, ought to be conserved as far as possible. Necessity for eliminating waste extends to every item.

There is in every orchard a large proportion of windfalls which have a legitimate use. This fruit is not suitable for drying, because that process calls for full maturity, in which the sugar content has been developed to the greatest possible extent. But the windfall apples and pears make excellent sauce and feed for the pigs and there is no good reason for feeding it to the hogs. It ought to be sold for just what it is, at a comparatively low price, and consumed before it spoils. Its lack of keeping quality is against a prolonged period of marketing.

Fancy grades of fruit have their place in the scheme of things. One is that because of their soundness they are available after the lower grades are gone. It is not unethical to sell a windfall apple as a windfall, and it is legitimate economy, from the viewpoint of both the grower and the eater.

Cheap fruit will not bear much transportation cost, nor stand fancy packing and selling charges. But city folk who live in the country in their automobiles this fall will help the orchard owner, and incidentally replenish their own larders at small expense, if they will buy in moderate quantities, furnishing their own baskets and dealing with the grower direct. No individual transaction will amount to much, but the total will result in the saving of a considerable quantity of excellent fruit.

Why Not a Cotton Embargo?
(From The Boston Transcript)

Current statistics seriously suggest the desirability if not the necessity of placing at least a partial embargo upon exports of cotton to neutral countries. It is well known that cotton is one of the most important and practically indispensable ingredients of some of the high explosives used in war; wherefore it may properly be classed as conditional contraband. Germany does not herself produce it, and is thus dependent upon imports from other countries. That she has been thus far perfectly obedient. That she should continue thus to get her supplies from us while we are at war with her would be a disgraceful anomaly.

It is high time for all such traffic to be stopped. We do not want to send soldiers to the war front to fight Germany, and at the same time directly or indirectly to send cotton to Germany with which to make explosives to kill them. It is said that an embargo is not placed upon cotton because the government does not want to interfere with the prosperity of the South. We should hate to believe that true. We should hate to think that the South, for the sake of a little higher price for her cotton, was willing to supply our enemy with munitions of war, with which to torpedo our ships and slaughter our men. If that were true, it would be one of the most appalling indictments of the South that ever was made.

"Lopsided Libertarians"

Peace-at-Any-Price Orators Aid Germany Against Humanity

To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sir: I am not now concerned with the spy venom and other manifestations of the Teutonic plague at present infesting this country. The subject of my attention is that tribe of lopsided libertarians and humanitarians who in the name of liberty and humanity are making every effort to stab liberty and humanity in the back.

I am more disgusted with the stand they have taken in the present world struggle because I believe in the fundamental truths of the philosophy they betray and because I understand the beauty of the religion they desert.

The place of the true libertarian is in the vanguard of those who fight against the aggressors of the freedom of nations.

The place of the true individualist is in the vanguard of those who fight to safeguard the individuality of nations.

The place of the true internationalist is in the vanguard of those who challenge the violators of international laws and relations. And do we find them there? Indeed not! We find them in the same U-boats with the Virecks and the Ridders manipulating majestic torpedoes for his would-be supreme majesty Wilhelm of Hohenzollern, and sweating for that boss, probably gratis.

Such being the case (and who will say that it is not?), I would suggest that if the Goldmans, the Eastmans, the Hillquists of every shade and hue will die if temporarily deprived of free speech and a free press, by all means let them. What if it becomes a question of freedom (however imperfect) of the world at large and the individual mouth freedom of a mob of temporary madmen, a decision is quickly reached.

The speech that will in the slightest or most indirect way help the German scourge is not free speech, but foul speech, as foul as the poison gas made in Germany for the French market.

The Lenines and the Maximalists of this country must be treated just as the New Russia has found it necessary to treat them.

I agree with them in their quarrel with the established order of things; indeed, the foundations of the now existing social order are rather rotten; but this is not the time to try to right them. Many burning problems are clamoring for a solution, but are they not dimmed into nothingness by the glare of the Titanic war flames that threaten the very existence of humanity and the extinction of freedom through the triumph of the Hun? Far better that humanity should cease to be than that the Hun should triumph.

It is my opinion that our peace at any price radicals have forfeited all rights to respect and consideration since they have constituted themselves an organized hindrance to the greatest liberalizing and internationalizing movement in the history of the world.

Lacking the facility of discrimination, not having sufficient human understanding nor breadth of vision necessary for leadership, they have degenerated into professional opinion positioners whose one raison d'être is to oppose, no matter what, and in this alone they are consistent. For we behold the funny spectacle of these direct actionists suddenly becoming parliamentarians, and these saboteurs turned overnight into non-resisters.

The shibboleth of these erstwhile and otherwise fire eaters now is: "Let us parley with the Kaiser and resist him not."

Therefore, in consideration of the extraordinary situation now obtaining, I plead for the temporary suppression of the freedom of speech and press for all those who directly or indirectly seek to dissuade, discourage and distract the people from the accomplishment of their paramount duty, which is the most effective prosecution of the war against the "Central Powers" of hell.

Let us muzzle the whining peace mutants until the Kaiser hounds are routed from the face of the earth.

ADOLF WOLFE.
New York City, Aug. 23, 1917.

The German Press Blunders

To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sir: There is one thing that impresses the mind of the intelligent readers of the current events of the day, that the German press of the United States either has had very little influence with the German government, or else it approves the barbarism of the German army.

The common sense of the ordinary man will look upon the policy adopted by the German government in its work of destruction in France and Belgium as shortsighted, point and seeing and a gross waste of resources, without a position, in his own right, that has befallen the German people has been the destruction of their commerce and of their commercial relations with the nations of the world. Prior to 1914 Germany could boast of as great commercial success as any people. Their ships sailed every sea, and they were successful in all that pertained to a thriving, thriving people. Why their government should embark in this war and sacrifice all that they had gained could only be based upon the inference that they could afford to gain military advantage which they thought was within their power. Their day editors, and especially the one of today "Why It Failed," is strong evidence of the fact that the sooner the German press of the United States can impress their fatherland of the great mistake they have made, and also change their course, to a policy of urging the German government to surrender the ambition to control the world, the sooner will peace come. And it will be such a peace that will be won by the triumph of the common sense and the united effort of civilization over a barbarous and cruel power that seeks to impose itself on the world.

It will be a wonder in future history why the German press of the United States would not stand by our government against the policy which brought ruin to the great commercial power of the German people.

It has been repeated very frequently that Germany could not be crushed, but, one thing, Germany has been crushed; that is, her commerce.

O. J.
Washington, Aug. 21, 1917.

A Challenge to Mr. Moffett

To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sir: The American Defence Society, as quoted in yesterday's issue of The Tribune, speaks of "the rising tide of traitorous activities financed and directed by the imperial German government." Mr. Cleveland Moffett was quoted in an earlier issue as saying: "I was informed to-day that German speakers in this city are being financed by Wilhelmstrasse."

Let us have this information immediately. Or, at least, let Mr. Moffett tell us that he has placed it in the hands of the proper authorities. His statement casts the shadow of treason not only upon the pro-Germans in our community but upon all who are in any way connected with the pro-Germans in our community. It is not to be agreed with his.

"Information" of this sort, if without supporting evidence and without specific data, is not the weapon of a straightforward man.

HIRAM K. MODERWELL.
New York, Aug. 20, 1917.

The Foreign Language Press

By Samuel Strauss
From The Voyager

There is every indication that America and the foreign language newspapers have reached a parting of the ways. Over a period growing into two hundred years information and opinion have been communicated to a portion of our population in printed words that were not English. But even though the type dress of some of its members was outlandish, we were, in the earlier days, always conscious of our newspaper press institution, foreign and English, as a unity. The voice may have been now German, now Yiddish or Italian, but the heart seemed always native. This is no longer true. There has been a great change; the war did not mark the beginning of that change, but it has discovered it to our view.

Like no other people save the French, we have always had a passionate belief in the liberty of the press. For us, democracy totters without it; without it, freedom of conscience and universal suffrage are empty phrases. So jealously have we guarded this temple that when called upon now and then to re-define disputed boundaries we have frankly chosen to mistake on the side of exaggerated latitude; we have felt that not an atom of pressure must exert itself against liberty of communication; criticism and observation must be able to breathe as easily in the community as air is breathed in the lungs. Consequently we have recognized the right of each group of us to absorb and to give out ideas in whatever tongue offered least resistance. The important thing was the thought; whether expressed in Latin or Teutonic or Anglo-Saxon could not greatly matter. For, he it remembered, these antecedent polyglot groups were at one with us in political belief. They had come to America because they wanted to be free. The music of their aspirations was our music. If they could play from the score more effectively upon instruments different from our own, welcome and better; the more voices in the orchestra the fuller and richer the harmony.

New Immigration

But the era of our great material development brought a new kind of immigration. When the evil genius of history would have men forget freedom, he wills a period of frenzied prosperity. Our gates were thronged with crowds seeking not political liberty but the opportunity for economic readjustment; not a free government but a rich land. They did not stop to ask if this Republic were superior to the home state, or whether life here were nobler. It was enough to know that existence could be made easy and creature improvement certain. To the earlier comers America had been an ideal; to the later it offered a solution of the purely pragmatic problems of life.

The newspapers of what we may call the first period were, then, the same as our native journals up to the matter of the language; with the second period they differed from the English papers not alone in their outward reading but in their controlling motives. Commercially, it is improbable that a journalism which was substantially a translation of the native, a mere replacing of German or Yiddish words for the English, the American genius in foreign phrases, could have persisted to any important position to-day. The extensiveness and the prosperity of the alien press during this new

Saving Property or Lives?

The Bearing of the Fire Prevention Bureau's Work on Insurance Rates

To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sir: My denial of his statement that the activities of the Fire Prevention Bureau are for the purpose of making "the risk safer for fire insurance companies" is misinterpreted as chiding by Mr. Richard O. Chittick, executive secretary of the Real Estate Board of New York. I have no desire to chide any one, much less (as he suggests) Mr. Adamson, than whom a more capable Fire Commissioner New York never had. What I do desire is that the true relation of fire insurance rates and profits to premium income be understood by the public.

Permit me to repeat my original statement that "the specific intent and purpose of fire prevention ordinances are to conserve human life—to make buildings safer, for occupants and to provide ready and ample means of escape in case of emergency, whether from panic due to fire or any other cause."

Of these ordinances Mr. Chittick now says "taxpayers will tell you that while some are designed for this purpose, some appear to be for the sole object of causing money to be spent. They will also tell you that some of these requirements are said by some interested in fire prevention to be for the purpose of saving property; and these are among the most expensive." I have no doubt whatever that Mr. Chittick in the above correctly interprets the views of some people. But these are opinions, not facts. What bearing have they upon the equity of fire insurance rates? Even if true, why charge the fire insurance business with the nervousness of the Bureau of Fire Prevention? Let us stick to the text and clear up our subject at a time.

The proposed investigation which I feel sure is prove valuable to both insurer and insured, it is quite likely, as intimated by Mr. Chittick, that it will cover a much wider field than the of fire insurance losses and premiums.

EDWIN O. TORBORN.
Brooklyn, Aug. 24, 1917.

For Lower Freight Rates

To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sir: Inasmuch as the government is now at work forming commissions to investigate the prices of commodities and supplies of all kinds, we write to ask if the press of our country cannot do something to stir up the shippers as well as the Administration against the high prices that the European lines and American lines are now charging for freight.

Everything now should be patriotic. The freight rates that these companies are charging really cannot be very patriotic, but a patriotic, and other material necessary to run a ship, wheat, rice, provisions or other commodities in some cases the rate is more than the cost of the goods. For instance, a freight just before the war was from \$1.50 to \$4 a ton on such food articles as rice, grain, etc. Now it is from \$80 to \$80 a ton.

Compare what it costs to ship one hundred tons of rice abroad now to what it was before the war; for instance, one hundred tons before the war would be \$400; one hundred tons now would be from \$5,000 to \$5,000.

While there is no question about the price of labor, coal and other material necessary to run a steamship being doubled, and in some cases it costs three times as much, it is no cause, however, for the steamship companies to charge exorbitant advances of over 1,000 per cent. The peculiar part of this is the fact that all the lines, the Cunard Line, Anchor Line and the American Lines, have the same rates, making it look as though it was a combination to hold up these rates on the public without any interference at all from the Administration; whereas if this was done by manufacturing concern, it would claim that such action was contrary to the Sherman law. In connection with the above we wish to draw your attention to the remarks of our President on this subject:

"Let us turn for a moment to the ship owners of the United States and the other ocean carriers whose example they have followed, and ask them if they realize what obstacles, what almost insuperable obstacles, they have been putting in the way of the successful prosecution of this war by the same freight rates they have been exacting."

L. SCHEPP COMPANY.
New York, Aug. 24, 1917.

Dogs and Food Consumption

To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sir: In your issue to-day I read a letter from W. G. Gresham, Jr., who says that Mr. Hoover wishes to increase the food supply. He says that he will kill off all the dogs. As one of the reasons he states that it is on account of dogs the nation is prevented from raising sheep.

While it is true there are a lot of mongrel dogs that should be exterminated, I think the writer's contention that dogs prevent the raising of sheep is erroneous, to say the least. Let him go out to Idaho, Wyoming, Montana or any of the Western states and ask the opinion of sheep raisers as to the value of good collies and shepherds. I have seen collies in that country which could and did herd sheep better than any man, and whose value would not sell them for \$5,000. A good dog properly trained, is an asset, not a liability, to the sheep raising industry.

As for killing off all the dogs in order to increase the food supply, I will venture the assertion that more food is consumed in this country by worthless humans than by worthless dogs.

H. A. WENGE.
Bridgeport, Conn., Aug. 24, 1917.

To Kill Savages Wholesale

To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sir: The summons to ten million men, from twenty million families, for defense against a world-rioter brings the matter of close home that the most indifferent among us must do some deep thinking and reach quickly the last analysis. We shall find our worst element of unpreparedness is our ignorant repugnance to killing a fellow man. But Germany's challenge to the nations she is now fighting is, "Surrender or die." We surely will not do the deed and there is no avoiding the second sort of determining the killing ourselves, to the point of extermination if necessary.

Those of us who are to go abroad must be, for some thoroughly imbued with this idea, for our mission will be to convert a world of men to the Christian religion. Not because they are savages, but because they are savages. Those of us who stay at home must equally cultivate the war spirit, that those at the front may be assured of our moral support.

We can go back to our peace habits and thought when we take the armor of war, but we can make our homes safe from devastation by the cruel potentate and made the world safe for democracy.

E. S. T.
New York, Aug. 23, 1917.

Distributing Tribune Editorials and Cartoons

To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sir: I agree with Mr. Ernest D. Daniels and Mr. Simon Dotenheimer in their notice of August 17 and August 21 that your editorial of August 17 and your cartoons should be distributed broadcast, and distributed (at the same time) in sending them to my daughter (at her request) in France, and also to the other distributed. (Mrs.) E. M. BRACHMAN.
New York, Aug. 24, 1917.

For a Uniform Standard

Examining Physicians Have Too Much Discretion or Little Knowledge

To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sir: The writer has successfully applied for both Plattburg camps, in the National Guard and in the Naval Reserve, and in each of these has been rejected on account of hernia and light weight. These are all matters of record. When examined for the draft army the writer was accepted, notwithstanding the formidable record of rejections in his credit.

He is not at all familiar with the physical requirements demanded of men by the examining army physicians; but why is there not some means of recourse for a man, or some consideration given his appeal on the grounds of physical unfitness, particularly as there is every possibility of his being rejected at the camp? Going to camp in many instances means resigning from a more or less valuable position; and if the candidate is rejected he is thrown on his own resources, without a position, in his own right, that has befallen the German people has been the destruction of their commerce and of their commercial relations with the nations of the world. Prior to 1914 Germany could boast of as great commercial success as any people. Their ships sailed every sea, and they were successful in all that pertained to a thriving, thriving people. Why their government should embark in this war and sacrifice all that they had gained could only be based upon the inference that they could afford to gain military advantage which they thought was within their power. Their day editors, and especially the one of today "Why It Failed," is strong evidence of the fact that the sooner the German press of the United States can impress their fatherland of the great mistake they have made, and also change their course, to a policy of urging the German government to surrender the ambition to control the world, the sooner will peace come. And it will be such a peace that will be won by the triumph of the common sense and the united effort of civilization over a barbarous and cruel power that seeks to impose itself on the world.

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O. J.
Washington, Aug. 21, 1917.

Send Roosevelt to Russia

Situation Demands Speedy Action, and He Is Man to Meet It

To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sir: Russia has sent out her S. O. S. Immediate aid is the only kind that will be of any value. For our allies to give Russia military assistance is practically out of the question. The United States must act.

We cannot send a second Pershing expedition, and we cannot send "rookie" conscripts. It is imperative that Theodore Roosevelt and his proposed expeditionary force be dispatched at once, in as large numbers and as well equipped as possible.

He is the man to meet just such a situation—one that demands the speediest possible action. His great courage, his indomitable will and his unparalleled ability to awaken wild enthusiasm among masses of men should make him the most welcome visitor Kerensky could desire.

The presence of American troops in Russia could not fail to be mutually beneficial. Nothing could hearten the troubled Russians so much as the actual presence in their line of American troops whom they regard as closest to them in ideals and aspirations. And the actual presence of our men on Russian soil would necessarily arouse our largest efforts in keeping Russia well supplied.

We have, then, a clear alternative. We can putter and dawdle until it is too late—until Russia is out of the struggle and the war is thereby unexpectably prolonged and exhausting. Or we can make the bold stroke, characteristic of our national genius for quick and comprehensive action.

Send Roosevelt to Russia! T. R.
East Orange, N. J., Aug. 23, 1917.

The Most Popular Man in America

To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sir: Straws show how the wind blows. Last night I was at the Strand. As pictures were shown on the screen Secretary Baker was looked at in silence. President Wilson received great applause, Elihu Root a rousing reception, but Theodore Roosevelt set the whole house to applauding and cheering.

We read that there is talk of sending "Our Teddy" at the head of 100,000 men to Russia. The Russians do not need our men. If President Wilson is a BIG enough man he will appoint Mr. Roosevelt to head a company of one hundred men and let Mr. Roosevelt choose the men. Send these to Russia and they would put such life and hope and enthusiasm into the Russians and so much consternation into the Germans that there would be no more need to worry about the Eastern front.

President Wilson put a crown on his own head when he showed he was big enough to appoint Mr. Root to head the Russian commission. Why can't he go one step further and accept the help of the most popular man in America? W. J. SHILLIDAY.
New York, Aug. 24, 1917.

How to Beat a Boss

To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sir: The Murphy-McCooley-Hearst-Hylan combination is muddying the political waters of New York City; but surely the net is spread in vain in the sight of any bird—especially a Democratic bird. All of which prompts me to ask, "Why should a boss be a boss? Why Hylan? Why Knott? Why Craig? There is no sane answer save the domination of Bourbon."

Governor Sulzer said, the only way to beat a boss is to beat the candidates of the boss. As one of the Democratic voters of this city, I guess it is up to me like me to beat the boss again by reflecting Mayor Mitchell—the best Mayor the city has had in my recollection. X.
New York, Aug. 26, 1917.

In Happy Cuba

To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sir: Owing to the fact that Cuba is now an ally of this wonderful country and is doing all she possibly can to help the United States win this war of democracy and freedom, it seems to the writer that the liberty-loving people of this "land of the free and home of the brave" will be interested in knowing that revolutionary airs have stopped blowing in the "Pearl of the Antilles" and that prosperity and happiness now rule.

Everybody in Cuba to-day seems satisfied and contented. The drum of insurrection has practically stopped beating; the banner of peace triumphantly waves.

However, in the midst of all this happiness, there is still a note of sadness whose echo reaches the inmost fibres of the human heart. General José Miguel Gomez (former President of Cuba) and his son, the brave and promising young Cuban lawyer, Miguel Mariano, are still political prisoners. For months they have been confined in jail; for months they have been separated from those they love, and now that both have been released, the Liberals are understanding each other and forgetting their past differences and animosities, as lovers of justice and right we sincerely believe the time has come when President Menocal and the Cuban government should pardon and set free ex-President José Miguel Gomez and his son.

JORGE GODOY.
New York, Aug. 14, 1917.